

NANCY BOSKOFF
DIRECTOR

SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SALT LAKE CITY ARTS COUNCIL

RALPH BECKER
MAYOR

FRANK B. GRAY
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 10, 2011

PRESENT:

Board Members

Candice Colby	Michael Mack
Lynn Hoffman-Brouse	Bruce Miya
John McCarthy	Helen M. Peters

Guests

BreAnne McConkie, RDA of Salt Lake City
Jill Wilkerson-Smith, RDA of Salt Lake City

Staff Members

Nancy Boskoff	Roni Thomas
Kim Duffin	Kelsey Moon
Casey Jarman	Amanda Maestas

EXCUSED:

Allison Barclay	Jeanette Sawaya
Laura Dupuy	Brent Schneider
Rebecca Guevara	Logan Sisam

I. Call to Order/Welcome

Mr. Miya called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. He welcomed the guests from the Redevelopment Agency staff, Ms. McConkie and Ms. Wilkerson-Smith.

II. Sidewalk Artists Discussions

As a courtesy to the guests, Mr. Miya asked the board, as requested by the RDA chair, Mr. Luke Garrott, to spend some time discussing issues related to sidewalk performing artists and buskers in downtown Salt Lake. Ms. Boskoff provided background information on the existing City ordinance that encourages such activity.

The discussion was wide-ranging and focused on the areas of quality, resources and management. As the board was not expected to arrive at specific recommendations, the discussion included a number of observations and comments. Ms. Boskoff agreed to prepare the notes from the discussion and provide a summary to the chair and staff of the RDA.

III. Executive Committee

A. Mr. Miya reported that the executive committee is making progress on committee and leadership assignments for the board and will report in full at the October meeting.

B. Mr. Miya announced, as follow-up to a previous board discussion, that he had set up a bank account to receive donations to be used for a project in memory of Ella Knight. He explained that once the donations were collected, he would talk with members of Ella's family to get a sense of how best they would like her to be remembered by the Arts Council. Ms. Boskoff said she would send out more detailed information regarding the donations via e-mail. Board members expressed their appreciation to Mr. Miya for shepherding the project.

C. Mr. Miya announced that Mr. Mack had served his full two years as chair of the Arts Council board and had been an energetic and enthusiastic leader. The board took the time to thank Mr. Mack, who spoke briefly on his service as chair.

Mr. Miya also recognized Ms. Colby, noting that she has completed two full terms on the board, including serving as chair of the Grants Committee. He thanked both Mr. Mack and Ms. Colby for their valuable contributions to the Arts Council and to the community.

IV. Arts Events Discussion

Mr. Miya invited board and staff members to contribute to a discussion about the various arts activities and events they had attended since the last board meeting, generating a lively exchange.

V. Grants Committee – Candice Colby

Ms. Colby reported on the City Arts Grants review activity undertaken by the Grants Committee for the 2011-2012 grant year. She referred them to the notebook sent prior to the meeting, containing the grant award recommendations in four categories: General Support, Project Support, Arts Learning and Artist-in-the-Classroom.

She discussed the work of the Grants Committee, noting that each application is reviewed and judged on its own merit. This year, the Grants Committee had the painful task of revisiting the initial recommendations in order to pare the grants awarded to suit the available budget.

She believes that the Grants Committee members are satisfied with the recommendations forwarded to the board, reflecting a fair and equitable review process. She noted that there is a commitment from the members that arts education activities are very important, as they provide young people with a well-rounded education and prepare them to become future arts participants. In response to a question regarding the new Arts Learning category, Ms. Colby noted that the number of students served was one of the criteria discussed, with the understanding that some experiences are more in-depth and others are one-time interactions, with both having value for the child.

Mr. Miya asked board members to state conflicts of interest with any of the grant applicants, so the information may be recorded in the minutes. Ms. Colby stated a conflict of interest, and did not vote, on the application from the Salt Lake Film Society. Mr. Mack stated a conflict of interest, and did not vote, on the application from the Utah Arts Festival.

Ms. Hoffman-Brouse moved, and Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion, that the City Arts Grants be awarded as recommended by the Grants Committee. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Miya thanked the members of the Grants Committee for the excellent job of reviewing a significant amount of applications and supplemental information.

VI. Staff Reports

A. Mr. Duffin reported that the Guest Writers Series season has been announced, and will open with a graduate student reading on August 25, followed with a reading by poet Dana Levin on September 8. He described the new visual art exhibits, opening on August 19.

B. Mr. Jarman reported that, as planned, the Brown Bag Concert Series opened August 1 and will run through August 26, alternating between three downtown locations.

Regarding the Twilight Concert series, Mr. Jarman said that the concerts and attendance had so far exceeded expectations, and that having one year of experience at Pioneer Park has contributed to a well-run operation, with a hard-working and committed staff. In response to a question, he noted that the text donation experiment has generated some donations, but not to the degree that was hoped.

He took some time to describe the music and background of the artists on the series. He noted that local businesses have benefited greatly from the activity generated from the Twilight Concerts and he will be working to capture that information.

C. Ms. Thomas reported that the public art website has been launched, and is designed in a format to accept information and images as new projects are commissioned. She reported that the Salt Lake Art Design Board had met to review local artists' proposals for Popperton Park, and their recommendation has been forwarded to the Mayor for his approval.

Ms. Thomas reported that a new exhibit will be installed at the Pioneer Precinct Community Art Gallery based on a workshop led by Donna Pence and Paul Heath with children from the Lied Boys and Girls Club.

She announced that the Design Board, with stakeholder representatives, will meet on August 23 to review artists' materials submitted for two projects at the Public Safety Building.

She noted that the public art program is working on updating the collection inventory and photo documentation, and that maintenance and repair is ongoing.

D. Ms. Moon reported that now having received all of the Evaluation Reports from the first-round recipients of Arts Learning grants, she is preparing a report on participants served, geographic distribution, and artforms involved. She noted that over 23,000 young people and 400 artists have been involved in the projects funded through the Arts Learning grants.

She reported that she is working on an Annual Report for the 2010-2011 year for the Arts Council, the first ever for a publication of this nature. In response to a question, Ms. Moon reported that the Local Arts Index report will likely be released publicly in January.

E. Ms. Boskoff reported briefly on the "Cultural Core," a joint project of Salt Lake City and Salt Lake County. She noted that the independent financial audit is underway, explaining that it had been decided to begin the process in July, so that the report would be available to the board, to the City, and to other funders sooner in the year. She noted that Reservoir Park has been designated for a community celebration and viewing location for the "Tour of Utah" bicycle race on August 13, as the route has the competitors riding down University Street and returning up 1300 East.

VII. Other Business/Adjourn

Mr. Miya spoke in closing, thanking the board and staff for their hard work and level of professionalism. He again thanked Mr. Mack and Ms. Colby, noting that they have been phenomenal board members.

There being no further business, Mr. Miya adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.